

## FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329 (916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

July 2, 2014

Torrance Voters PAC to Support Pat Furey for Mayor 2014

## REDACTED

Richard F. Roesch
Principal Officer
Torrance Voters PAC to Support Pat Furey for Mayor 2014

## **REDACTED**

Warning Letter Re: FPPC Case No. 14/570; In the Matter of Torrance Voters PAC to Support Pat Furey for Mayor 2014 and Richard F. Roesch, Principal Officer

Dear Mr. Roesch and Committee Members:

The Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPPC") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act ("Act"), <sup>1</sup> found in Government Code section 81000, et seq. This letter is in response to the FPPC's proactive investigation into a billboard advocating the election of Pat Furey for Mayor and erected by Torrance Voters PAC to Support Pat Furey for Mayor 2014. The FPPC has completed its investigation of the facts in this matter. Specifically, the FPPC found that your committee violated the Act's independent expenditure disclaimer provisions with regard to the requirement that the committee identify itself as acting independently when making an independent expenditure.

The Act provides that committees must disclose specific information on advertisements that are independent expenditures made to support or oppose candidates. To that effect, Section 84506.5 states that "an advertisement supporting or opposing a candidate that is paid for by an independent expenditure must include a statement that it was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate." Your committee's actions violated the Act because you failed to insert a statement disclosing that the billboard was not authorized by a candidate or a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014. All statutory references are to the Government Code, unless otherwise indicated. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. All regulatory references are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations, unless otherwise indicated.

Page 2 of 2

committee controlled by a candidate. However, because, in addition to having no prior Enforcement cases, the committee filed campaign statements disclosing its payments to support Pat Furey as independent expenditures, we are closing your case with this warning letter. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on newly discovered information or future conduct. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

A warning letter is an FPPC case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. However, the warning letter resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or the Fair Political Practices Commission. If you wish to avail yourself of these proceedings by requesting that your case proceed with prosecution rather than a warning, please notify us within ten (10) days from the date of this letter. Upon this notification, the FPPC will rescind this warning letter and proceed with administrative prosecution of this case. If we do not receive such notification, this warning letter will be posted on the FPPC's website ten (10) days from the date of this letter. The FPPC publishes forms and manuals to facilitate compliance with the provisions of the Act. If you need forms or a manual, or guidance regarding your obligations, please call the FPPC's Technical Assistance Division at 1-866-275-3772 or visit our website at <a href="https://www.fppc.ca.gov">www.fppc.ca.gov</a>.

Please feel free to contact Adrianne Korchmaros at (916) 322-8241 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

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Gary S. Winuk
Chief, Enforcement Division

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